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AN ACT

To maintain and strongton the mutual defenses and security of the Free World by adding refugees from communism and by relieving through special emigration the tensions caused by overpopulation on Wontern Europe.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECRY TITLE

- Sec. 1. That this Act may be cited as the Special Migration...
 Assistance Act of 1952.
- Sec. 2. Declaration of objectives. The Congress hereby declares it to be the purposes of this act to enable the Covernment of the United States to participate more fully in the defense of the democratic ideals against communicate to reinforce our can resources and economic superities, and to assure world peace and stability; among the means to be used to achieve these objectives are:
- (i) the admission into the United States of properly selected refugees from communicati
- (ii) the relief of dangerous tensions in Europe by the admission into the United States of properly selected and skilled people from certain designated countries of overpopulation in Europe in the interest of European stability and peace;
- (iii) the provision of familities, services and payments for the temperary reception and care of refugees from communism, enabling their effective contribution toward lemograpy and freedom, and by

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empling them to take advantage of resettlement opportunities;

- (iv) the education and training of refugess from communism
 from countries under communist domination, to assure such countries of
 leadership once they have been liberated; and
- (v) the preservation of the cultural heritage of countries under communist domination.
 - Sec. 3. Definitions. When used in this Act the term
- (i) "Commission" means the Migration-Assistance Commission oreated pursuant to this Act;
- (ii) Person of German ethnic origin means any person, essentially of Germanic origin who was born in Caschoslovakia, Albania, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Foleni, Rumania, Russia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria or areas under the control and domination of any such countries, except these parts of Germany and Austria under military occupation by the Union of Seviet Socialist, Republics;
- (iii) Refugee from occumentate means any person other than a person of German or Italian ethnic origin who, because of persocution or fear of persocution on account of race, religion or political opinions, escaped from the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Tugoslavia, or the Communist dominated or occupied areas of Germany and Austria.

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Sec. 101. Hongueta visis for admission of sliens, manbers, classes. (a) Beginning on the date this Act takes effect and during the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1955, a number of special nonquota

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eligible under this Title, to their spouses and their unmarried dependent child or children under 21 years of age, including adopted children and stepchildren, if accompanying or following to join them:

Provided, That during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1954, up to 50 per cent of the number of visas allocable under subsection (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this acction may be reallocated for issuance to qualified persons in any of the countries as described in these subsections: Provided, further, That any such reallocation of visas shall be by the joint action of the Department of State and the Commission authorized under this Title.

- (b) A number of special nonquota immigration visus not to exceed 117,000 may be issued within the total numerical limitations, provided by subsection (a) of this section to persons of German ethnic origin who are resident in the area of the German Federal Republic or in the United States, British or French occupation zones in Austria or in the western sectors of Earlin or Vienna.
 - (c) A number of special nonquote immigration visus, not to exceed 117,000, may be issued within the total numerical limitation provided by subsection (a) of this section to Italian nationals and persons of Italian ethnic origin who are resident: in Italy or in the United States-United Kingdom some of the Free Territory of Triesto.
 - (d) A number of special nonquote immigration visas, not to exceed 22,500, may be issued within the total numerical limitation provided by subsection (a) of this section to Greek nationals who are resident in Greece.

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- (e) A number of special nonquota immigration visas, not to exceed 22,500, may be issued within the total numerical limitation provided by subsection (a) of this section to nationals of the Netherlands who are resident in the Netherlands.
- (f) A number of special nonquota immigration visas, not to exceed 21,000, may be issued within the total numerical limitation provided by subsection (a) of this section to refugees from communism who are resident in any of the ϕ untries or areas of residence as described in subdivisions (b), (c), (d), or (e) of this section.

Sec. 102. Quota visas for eligible displaced persons. (a) Beginning on the date of this Act takes effect and during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953, a number of quota visas not to exceed 7,500, shall be issued without regard to quote limitations for that year as provided by subsection (b) of this section to aliens, their spouses and dependent unmerried child or children under 21 years of age, including adopted children and stepchildren of such aliens, if accompanying or following to join them, whose processing had been initiated by the Displaced Persons Commission under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as smended (Public Law 774, 60th Congress; as amended by Public Leas 555, 81st Congress and Public Law 60, 82nd Gengress), and who are qualified as eligible displaced persons under the terms of that Ast, as amended, but who did not receive visas owing in the exhustion and expiration of staintory authority for issuance of views to such aliene under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as emended (Public Lew 60, 82nd Congress).

- (b) Upon the issuance of an immigration quota visa to any alien as provided for in subsection (a) of this section, the consular officer shall use a quota number from the immigration quota for the country of the alien's nationality as defined in section 12 of the Immigration Act of May 26, 1924 (8 U.S.C. 212), for the fiscal year then current at the time, unless the authorized percentage of any quota as provided for in the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as amended, has already been utilized, in which event a quota number will be taken from the first fiscal year in which such authorized percentage had not been utilized, and provided that, including visas issued under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as amended, not more than 25 percentum will be issued from the annual quotas for the fiscal years 1953 and 1954, and not more than 50 percentum for fiscal years thereafter.
- Sec. 103. Assurances. Assurances shall be executed by a citizen or citizens of the United States in accordance with regulations of the Commission authorized under this Act that persons who qualify under subdivisions (b), (c), (d), (e) or (i) of section 101 of this Title,

 if admitted into the United States, will be suitably employed without directly displacing some other person from employment, and that any such person and the members of his family who propose to live with him shall not become public charges, and will have housing without directly displacing some other person from such housing.

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Sec. 104. Laws applicable. 101 Except as authorized in this Title, immigration laws, melud up deportation laws, shall be applicable persons who apply to be or one are admitted into the United States pursuant to this Title, with the exception of the contract labor clause of section 3 of the immigration Act of February 5, 1917, as amended (39 Stat. 875-878; 8 U.S.C. 126), and that part of the said Act which excludes from the United States persons whose ticket or passage is paid by another or by any corporation, association, society, municipality, or foreign government, either directly of indirectly.

(b) All persons qualifying for admission under this Title shall be exampt from paying wise and head taxes, and no such person shall be admitted into the United States unless there shall have been first a thorough investigation and written report an provided for in section 108 of this Title.

nonpensation, appropriations, supplyment of personnel, sules and regulations, reports to Congress, (a) there is hereby created a Commission to be known as the Migration-Assistance Commission, consisting of three members to be appointed by the Freedom, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term ending November 15, 1955, and one member of the Commission shall be the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the Commission, shall mission and, subject to the politicer scopted by the Commission, shall

have charge of the administration of its activities. He shall appoint and sapprvise the personnel of the Commission and determine the distrubition of work among them. The Chairman of the Commission shall receive a per annum, and the other members of the salary at the rate of \$ per annum. There Commission shall receive a salary at the rate of \$ are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums of money as may be necessary to enable the Commission to discharge its duties. Within the limits of such funds as may be appropriated to the Commission or as may be allocated to it by the President, the Commission may employ necessary personnel without regard to Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, and make provisions for necessary supplies, facilities, and services to carry out the provisions and accomplish the purposes of this Title. It shall be the duty of the Commission to formulate and issue regulations, necessary under the provisions of this Title, and in compliance therewith. The Commission shall formulate and issue regulations for the purpose of obtaining the most general distribution and settlement of persons admitted under this Title, consistent with housing and employment opportunities for reacttlement throughout the United States and their Territories and possessions. It shall also be the duty of the Commission to report on July 1, 1953, and annually thereafter to the President and to the Congress on the situation regarding persons admitted under this Title, and regarding the effectiveness of this Title in meeting the objectives of this Act, and such reports shall include full and complete details respecting the administration of the funds authorized to be appropriated pursuant to section 112 of this Title, including

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the names of persons and organizations to whom loans shall be made and the amount of such loans.

(b) Such report shall also include information respecting employment conditions and the housing situation in this country, the place and type of employment, and the residence of persons who have been admitted into the United States pursuant to the provisions of this Title. At the end of its term the Commission shall make a final report to the President and to the Congress.

Sec. 106. Intergovernmental arrangements for selection, movement, transportation, release of personal assets, facilities for administration, authority to enter into agreements. (a) The Secretary of State shall assist the Commission in making whatever intergovernmental arrangements are necessary for the purpose of insuring the voluntary movement of migrants mutually benefit at to the economies of the United States and the countries concerned, as well as to the individual migrants and their families. Such arrangements, where appropriate, will seek to enable emigrants under this Title to transfer into dollar currency personal assets necessary for transportation and initial reception costs in the United States. Arrangements between the United States and the other governments concerned should also provide for such cooperation and material assistance as may be required in the administration of the program in the territory of the European government concerned.

(b) The Commission may enter into agreements with international, governmental, and private agencies and may make payment in advance or by reimbursement for expenses incurred by such agencies in lending assistance Approved For Release 2004/06/23: CIA-RDP58-00597A000100230050-3 to the Commission in carrying out the jurposes of this Title.

Sec. 107. Selection without discrimination and equitable opportunity for resettlement. The selection of persons admitted under this Title shall be made without discrimination in favor of or against race, religion, or national origin of such persons, and the Commission shall insure that equitable opportunity for resettlement under the terms of this Title shall be afforded to persons admitted under this Title regardless of race, religion, or national origin. The extent to which the Commission has accomplished the foregoing objective shall be specifically indicated in the annual reports of the Commission filed pursuant to section 105(a) of this Title.

admittance, effect of misrepresentation, administration, laws applicable.

No alien shall be admitted into the United States under this Title

unless there shall have been first a thorough investigation and written

report made and prepared by the Commission regarding such person's

character, history, and eligibility under this Title. Any person who

shall wilfully make a material misrepresentation for the purpose of

gaining admission into the United States as an alien eligible hereunder

shall not be admissible into the United States under this Title. The

Commission shall reject any alien if it knows or has reason to believe

that the alien is not eligible under the terms of this Title; and no

person shall be assued an immigration visa or be admitted into the

United States under this Title if the consular officer or immigrant

inspector knows or has reason to believe that the alien is subject to

Sec. 108. Investigation and report on all persons prior to

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exclusion from the United States under any provision of the immigration laws or is not eligible under the terms of this Title: Provided, That nothing in this section shall remove the right of review and appeal available to aliens under the general immigration laws.

- Sec. 109. Preferences, good faith employment oath. (a) Preferences in the consideration of visa application under this Title, without priority in time of issuance of visas as between such preferences or as between preference and nonpreference cases under this Title, shall be given to
 - (1) persons who are farm workers and other persons whose services or skills are needed in the United States, and persons possessing special educational, scientific, technological or professional qualifications:
 - (2) persons who are the blood relatives of citizens or lawfully admitted alien residents of the United States, such relationship in either case being within the third degree of consangunity computed according to the common law.
- (b) No visa shall be issued to any alien whose admission under this Title is based on the submission of an assurance of suitable employment unless he shall first execute a signed statement under oath or affirmation that he accepts and agrees in good faith to abide by the terms of employment provided for such person in the assurance upon which his application for a visa under this Title is based. The Commission is hereby authorized and empowered to administer an oath or take an affirmation for this purpose and to designate employees who

shall have power to administer such oath or affirmation: Provided, That upon a finding by the Attorney General that such statement was falsely made it shall be deemed to be a misrepresentation for the purpose of gaining admission into the United States as provided for in section 108 of this Title: Provided further, That in determining whether or not the person accepted and agreed in good faith to abide by the said terms of employment the Attorney General shall consider the manner, conditions, extent, and duration of the person's employment after admission into the United States. Such alien and any alien found to have been inadmissible under the provisions of this Title at the time of entry shall, irrespective of the date of his entry, be taken into custody and deported in the manner provided by sections 19 and 20 of the Immigration Act of February 5, 1917, as amended.

penalties. (a) No visas shall be issued under the provisions of this Title to any person who is or has been a member of the Communist Party, or to any person who adheres to, advocates, or follows, or who has adhered to, advocated, or followed, the principles of any political or economic system or philosophy directed toward the destruction of free competitive enterprise and the revolutionary overthrow of representative governments, or to any person who is or has been a member of any organization which has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as a Communist organization, or to any person who is or has been a

which is or has been hostile to the United States or the form of government of the United States: Provided however, That any such person aforedescribed in this section other than a person who is or has been a member of the Communist Party, to whom a visa is not to be issued solely because of past membership or past affiliation with a party or organization, may be issued a visa if such alien establishes to the satisfaction of the Commission and the consular officer when applying for a visa and the Commission and the consular officer find that such membership or affiliation (1) is or was involuntary, or (2) is or was solely when under sixteen years of age, by operation of law, or for the purposes of obtaining employment, food rations, or other essentials of living and were necessary for such purposes. Any such alien, to whom a visa has been issued under the provisions of this subsection, may be admitted into the United States if he shall establish to the satisfaction of the Attorney General when applying for admission to the United States, and the Attorney General finds that such membership or affiliation is or was involuntary, or is or was solely when under sixteen years of age, by operation of law, or for the purpose of obtaining employment, food rations, or other essentials of living and were necessary for such purposes.

(b) No visas shall be issued under the provisions of this Title to any person who advocated or assisted in the persecution of any person because of race, religion, or national origin.

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(c) Upon arrival at the port of entry in the United States, every person eighteen years of age or older, authorized to be admitted under this Title, shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation that he is not and never has been a member of any organization or movement named in this section, except as hereinabove provided, and shall be liable to prosecution for perjury if such oath or affirmation is wilfully false. If any person not entitled to a visa under this section shall nevertheless gain admission to this country, in addition to the penalty above mentioned, such person shall, irrespective of the date of his entry, be deported in the manner provided by sections 19 and 20 of the Immigration act of February 5, 1917, as amended.

in frequency, contents of report, exceptions, penalties. Every alien admitted under this Title, except an alien who shall have derived his status because of being the spouse or an unmarried dependent child, adopted child, or stepchild under twenty—ene years of age of an alien eligible under this Title, who shall be admitted into the United States shall report on the first day of July of each year until he shall have made two reports to the Commission, respecting the employment, place of employment, and residence of such person and the members of such person's family and shall furnish such other information in connection with said employment and residence as the Commission shall by regulation prescribe: Provided, That if such person enters the United States within sixty days prior to the first day of July, the first report need not be made until

the next date of which a report is required to be made. Such report shall be made to the Commission during its term and thereafter to the Attorney General. Any person who wilfully violates the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not to exceed \$500, or be imprisoned not more than six months.

Sec. 112. Loans. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated funds to be employed by the Commission for loans through public or private agencies to persons who provide assurances, or to public or private agencies to finance the transportation and reception of persons authorized to be admitted under this Title. Such loans shall be made under rules and regulations approved by the President.

Sec. 113. Penalties. Any person or persons who knowingly violate or conspire to violate any provision of this Title, except section 111, shall be guilty of felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$500 nor more than \$10,000, or shall be imprisoned not less than two or more than ten years, or both.

TITLE II -- REFUGEES FROM COMMUNISM PART I -- RECEPTION, CARE AND RESETTLEMENT

Sec. 201. Reception facilities. The President is authorized to establish, maintain and operate suitable facilities for the temporary care and assistance for refugees from communism, in these countries of Europe which are the countries of first asylum of such refugees.

Sec. 202. Other services. The President is authorized to establish, maintain and operate such other services as may be necessary to (a) identify, register and classify such refugees from communism; (b) enable them to seek, obtain and qualify for employment suitable to their capacities and skills; (c) provide such other necessary assistance as will best serve the objectives of this Title.

Sec. 203. Resettlement. (a) The President is authorized to provide the funds necessary to enable such selected refugees from communism as are willing and able to the to be resettled in such countries as are willing and able to receive thems Provided however, That no agreement shall be concluded on behalf of the United States and no action shall be taken by any officer, agency, or other person (1) whereby any person shall be admitted to or settled or resettled in the United States or any of its territories or possessions without prior approval thereof by the Congress, unless admissible under Title I of this Act, or under some other statute of the United States, or (2) which will have the effect of abrogating, suspending, modifying, adding to, or superseding any of the immigration laws or any other laws of the United States.

- (b) Funds authorized to be provided in subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed the cost of transportation from country of first asylum to country of resettlement plus such other expenses as may be directly related to such transportation.
- (c) Funds authorized to be provided in subsection (a) of this section may be paid either to international or intergovernmental organizations of which the United States is a member, to agencies of the United States government, or to responsible American voluntary agencies duly accredited for this purpose.

PART II - EDUCATION FOR FUTURE LEADERSHIP IN, AND CULTURAL RESERVATION OF, NATIONS UNDER COMMUNIST DOMINATION

- Sec. 301. Education for future leadership. The President is authorized to provide for the education and training of selected refugees from communism for the purpose of assuring that their native countries shall, when liberated, have available persons who are adequately trained for leadership in various fields and who may contribute to the full resumption of free national life in their native countries.
- Sec. 302. Free World Universities in Exile. (a) To achieve the objectives of section 2 of Title I and section 301 of Title II, the President is authorized to establish, maintain and operate Free World Universities in Exile hereinafter called Institutions in suitable countries of Europe.
- (b) The actual administration of such Institutions shall, to the extent possible, be by colleges, universities, cultural institutions, or other suitable associations or organizations, public or private, under



Contractor — which may agree to assume responsibility for the establishment, maintenance and operation of such Institutions. The President is authorized to negotiate and enter into such agreements and make grants of such money, services or materials to such Contractors as may be necessary to carry out such agreements. In making such grants to any college, university, cultural institution, association or organization, the President shall exercise no control over its educational policies: Provided, however, That nothing herein shall prevent the President from exercising his full authority to administer the foreign policy of the United States.

- (6) The agreement provided for in subsection (b) of this section shall set forth (but need not be limited to) the following items:
 - (1) the specific purpose to be served by the particular Institution;
 - (2) the location of the Institution, and its relationship, if any, to other institutions, colleges or universities;
 - (3) the administrative structure and supervisory controls to be exercised by the Contractor;
 - (h) the Contractor's agreement to provide semiannual reports concerning all operations of the Institution, to include such information as may be required by the President;
 - (5) the Contractor's agreement to submit to periodic and special audits, by persons designated by the President;
 - (6) such capital expenditures as may be necessary to initiate the Institution.

- (d) The monies granted in such agreement may include payments to the Contractor, either by way of advance or reimbursement, for the following purposes:
 - (1) instructional, managerial, maintenance, administrative and other operating expenses normal in connection with such Enstitutions;
 - (2) transportation expenses and per diem for employees of the Contractor and, where necessary to accomplish the objectives of this Part, for students, without regard to the Standardized Government Travel Regulations and the Subsistence Act of 1926, as amended;
 - (3) capital expenses as provided in subsection (c) (6) of this section;
 - (h) all fees, taxes and other payments required to be made under the law of the country in which the Institution is located;
 - (5) purchase of necessary equipment, including but not limited to, laboratory, library and other equipment necessary for the effective operation of the Institution;
 - (6) scholarship grants for students admitted to the Institution, subject to the provisions of section 303(b);
 - (7) residence facilities for students and faculty;
 - (8) rents for the lesse of buildings, grounds or equipment.
 - Sec. 303. Scholarships. (a) The President is authorized to provide scholarships, in such amounts as he may determine, to refugees from communism for attendance at college, universities, technical and professional



schools, vocational schools or other suitable educational institutions in Europe or elsewhere where such attendance would more effectively serve the purposes of this Part than attendance at a Free World University in Exile.

- (b) The President is authorized to provide funds to Contractors, under agreements provided for in section 302(b), for scholarship grants to students attending Institutions, which grants shall include board, tuition, books, laboratory and other academic fees. Such scholarship grants shall be made by Contractors in conformity with general regulations prescribed by the Pausident therefor.
- Sec. 304. Adult education. (a) The President is authorized to provide, by agreement or otherwise, facilities in Europe for the appropriate education and training for leadership of refugees from communism, for whom the provisions of section 302 and section 303 are not suitable.
- (b) The President is authorized to provide such education and training through press, publications, radio, motion pictures, and other information media, and through instructors abroad, and to obtain by contract or otherwise the facilities necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section.
- Sec. 305. Student exchange program. (a) The President is authorized to provide an interchange for selected refugees from communism who are students or faculty members of Institutions under section 302 or who are scholarship holders under section 303, and shall wherever possible provide these interchanges by using the services of existing reputable agencies which are successfully engaged in such activity.
- (b) The persons specified in this section shall be admitted as nonimmigrant visitors for business under clause 2 of section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended (43 Stat. 154; 8 U.S.C. 203), for such time and under

such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. A person admitted under this section who fails to maintain the status under which he was admitted or who fails to depart from the United States at the expiration of the time for which he was admitted, or who engages in activities of a political nature detrimental to the interests of the United States, or in activities not consistent with the security of the United States, shall, upon the warrant of the Attorney General, be taken into custody and promptly deported pursuant to section 14 of the Immigration Act of 1924 (43 Stat. 162, 8 U.S.C. 214). Deportation proceedings under this section shall be summary and the findings of the Attorney General as to matters of fact shall be conclusive. Such persons shall not be sligible for suspension of deportation under clause 2 of subdivision (c) of section 19 of the Immigration Act of February 5, 1917 (54 Stat. 671, 56 Stat. 1044; 8 U.S.C. 155).

Sec. 306. Cultural and research institutes. (a) The President is authorized to establish and maintain cultural and research institutes for the purpose of preserving and enriching the cultural heritage and the technical, research and scientific developments of nations now under communist domination.

(b) The provisions of section 302 concerning agreements with Contractors shall, to the extent relevant, be applicable to cultural and research institutes.

PART III -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Appropriations. Appropriations to carry out the purposes of this Title are hereby authorized, and such funds are to be available until expended.

Sec. 402. Transfer of funds. The President may authorize the transfer, either by way of advance or reimbursement, to other government agencies in the United States and in other countries, and the grant of monies to Contractors, in order to carry out the purposes of this Title, of any part of any appropriations available or of any funds otherwise allocated by the President for carrying out the purposes of this Title, for direct expenditure or as a working fund.

Sec. 403. Allocation of funds. The montes granted to Contractors under the agreements provided for in section 302 and section 306, may be allocated on a basis which will permit their expenditure in subsequent fiscal years, but in no event may such monies be available for expenditure after the completion of the third fiscal year succeeding the year in which the funds were appropriated.

Sec. 404. Delegation of authority. The President may delegate all or part of the authority specifically vested in him under Title II of this Act, except the authority to issue Regulations under section 303, to such officer or agency, or officers or agencies of the Government as he determines to be appropriate, including such new officer or agency as he may deem necessary to establish to carry out all or part of the authority so vested in him. In the event the President delegates his authority to a new officer or agency he is authorized to fix the compensation of such officer or agency head at a rate of compensation

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Sec. 405. Use of government services, facilities and personnel.

The officer or agency, or officers or agencies, to which the President delegates authority under this Title pursuant to section 404 are authorised to utilize, with the approval of the President, the services, facilities, property and personnel of other Government agencies, and shall pay for such performance out of funds available under this Title, either in advance, by reimbursement, or direct transfer.

Sec. 406. Employment of personnel. Within the limits of such funds as may be appropriated for the administration of this Title, there may be employed necessary personnel without regard to the Civil Service laws, rules and regulations, or the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, and provision may be made for necessary supplies, facilities and services to carry out the provisions and accomplish the purposes of this Title.

Sec. 407. Reports to Congress. (a) The officer or agency, or officers or agencies, to which the President delegates the authority pursuant to section 404, shall on February first of each year, submit to the President annual full and complete reports on the activities carried on under the authority of such delegation and this Title.

(b) Such reports shall include information respecting refuges
from communism, the number of such persons resettled, the number of
persons affected by the several other activities provided for in this
Title, and appraisals and measurements, where feasible, as to the
effectiveness of these activities in terms of the objectives of the
Act and this Title.

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(c) The President shall forward to the Congress, with such observations and recommendations as he doesn appropriate, the reports provided for in this section.

Sec. 408. Separability provision. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the Act and the applicability of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.